

Putting Recycling to Work for Your Business

Countdown to Success!



10 Things to know before you talk to your refuse hauler about recycling:

- 1 Most hauling companies are in business to handle refuse and don't have much incentive to arrange recycling collection service.
- 2 Some refuse haulers don't have the capacity to provide recycling collection services – if this is the case, contact another hauler.
- 3 There is a cost to collecting recyclables just as there is to refuse collection.
- 4 Processing and marketing recyclables also costs money but is typically less than refuse disposal, particularly after you account for the value of materials.
- 5 Recycling can save you money (or cost nothing extra) if you generate a lot of paper (material that has high value) and have efficient collection service.
- 6 All recycling markets fluctuate but paper markets look very favorable for the next few years.
- 7 Revenues for a cubic yard of plastic bottles, aluminum cans and glass bottles are much lower than for paper, making bottle and can recycling less economical. And only carbonated and malt beverages are covered by the 5-cent deposit. The City contract with Save That Stuff (241-9998) is one of the best values to recycle bottles and cans or contact a local redemption center (Four Corners Recycling, 287-0013; Atlantic Bottle and Can, 689-0633; Boston Bottle and Can, 269-9783, all pick up deposit containers at no charge). ***Don't give up on bottles and cans!***
- 8 Shredded paper can be recycled – in fact, the paper recycling process is an effective way to destroy documents and can be more confidential than disposal!
- 9 If you have space to store recyclables in the dumpster, you probably can make the space to store recyclables to set-out for recycling.
- 10 Recycling is here to stay – don't let a refuse hauler tell you otherwise. Finding a collection method that works for you ***and*** the hauler is the key!



5 Things to talk to your hauler about to increase recycling today!

- 1 Two ways to reduce costs (and pay for recycling) are to reduce collection frequency and container size. Can you eliminate one refuse collection per week or per month?
- 2 How many types of paper can you set out for recycling – what about glossy paper, chipboard, and junk mail?
- 3 Can other types of paper be added to the cardboard dumpster to save on space and collection costs?
- 4 Is there another way to set out cardboard for recycling? Cardboard requires the same amount of space when put in the refuse dumpster as placed beside it. Can you reduce the size of the refuse container and make space for a cardboard container or an area where cardboard can be set out?
- 5 Even if your refuse hauler doesn't collect anything but cardboard, others do. Many businesses have a different hauler for refuse than for recycling.



3 Things to remember!

1 *No Cambridge business is too small to recycle!*

Cambridge is a city made up of small businesses. Together, they have the potential to divert a significant amount of material from disposal. Consider using the City contract (weekly bin or toter collection at a cost of \$26 or \$38 per month respectively through Save That Stuff, call 241-9998), bringing material to the City drop-off during open hours ONLY (free, 147 Hampshire Street, Tues/Thurs 4-7:30pm and Sat 9-4pm), arranging with a neighbor to share a toter or cardboard container, or checking out the list of recycling haulers below that currently serve Cambridge (June 2004)!



2 *Property Managers and Real Estate Management Companies must get in on the act!*

Recycling in Cambridge is mandatory and the Commonwealth has laws banning disposal of cardboard, paper, bottles and cans, scrap metal, vehicle batteries, waste oil (kitchen or car) and yard/wood waste. If your building throws away any of these materials in significant quantities, your property manager should talk to the refuse hauler about setting up recycling collection or call another recycling hauler (see 3 below).

3 *Make the first call!*

Your refuse hauler is the place to start since only the hauler can arrange a service change to save on refuse collection to pay for recycling. If your hauler does not offer recycling collection, Earthworm (628- is a local hauler that collects recyclables from small businesses exclusively. Several paper shredders/brokers are in the area and also pick up paper. In addition, Save that Stuff (241-9998) provides a fee based service negotiated through the City residential recycling contract. If a property manager or real estate management company handles the refuse, pass on this flyer!

Recycling haulers currently serving Cambridge include:

- Atlantic North Waste Systems (Hauling Division of Casella), (978) 535-6312
- Browning Ferris Industries (BFI), (781) 289-0500 x 230
- Earthworm Inc, (617) 628-1844
- EL Harvey & Son, (508) 836-3000
- Herbs Disposal (small scale organics), (800) 500-1439 or (781) 229-5869
- Jet-A-Way Recycling and Waste Disposal, (617) 541-4000 x239
- Save That Stuff, Inc (City of Cambridge Business Contractor), (617) 241-9998
- Waste Management, (508) 836-5691



1 Website to check out:

www.cambridgema.gov/theworks/departments/recycle